



BM BUFORA  
London  
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Dear member/ applicant,

During the past few months, BUFORA has been considering its future, specifically the way in which the organisation should proceed in view of the changing face of ufology itself. No doubt many of you are aware of these changes, or at least the signs of change being increasingly exhibited by the phenomenon itself. Aspects of this change include a noticeable decline in the number of sightings, the attention of the media in relation to sundry groups and organisations announcing or suggesting closure, and perhaps more importantly, a distinct shift in emphasis on the part of ufological research itself towards the phenomenon.

Perhaps less obvious are the changes in the way in which we share, report or otherwise pursue our interests in the UFO subject i.e., the Internet. This medium has been with us for so long now that we tend to take it for granted (particularly the younger generation, who take it in their collective stride). BUFORA has largely kept abreast of this development, and like most other ufological organisations, employs it as the principal means of dialogue with both its members and those likewise engaged in investigative research. Having said this, however, it has become increasingly obvious to us in the recent past that the BUFORA web site hasn't been maximised, either in content or as a means of extending its material to a wider audience. On that basis, it was decided that changes were perhaps now overdue.

At the same time as we reviewed the web site, we realised that the New BUFORA Journal was in need of its own rejuvenation. This of course led to numerous exchanges of opinion as to its format and indeed its contents. Were the contents actually meeting the requirements of a paying membership, and was the whole package truly reflecting the changes taking place within the subject itself? It became apparent that combining the two would be the logical way forward. Sundry ideas and concepts naturally flowed between the directorship and individual departments concerning how this potential merger might work best for both the membership and the organisation. These various debates and discussions culminated in a recent directorship meeting that ultimately led to a positive decision to amalgamate the journal with a completely new web site which would negate the need to sustain the requirements of a paying membership, yet still offer them a means by which to associate themselves with the organisation.

Therefore, BUFORA has elected to dispense with its paying membership from the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 2005, and offer them instead the opportunity to subscribe to what will effectively become the BUFORA journo-web site. All applications for membership after this date, along with applications for renewal of existing membership will be declined and monies returned. Naturally, many of our existing members will have questions relating to repayment. BUFORA will ensure that all of its members will, in due course, receive a pro-rata refund that reflects their individual time as members from the date they paid for their current subscription. Members and new applicants details will be retained on file, and all will be canvassed nearer the time of launch for the new subscription based journo-web site. The web site will of course be comprised of initial free access pages as per other sites. Subscription, however, will grant users access to a journal specific side of the site, which will incorporate many familiar features plus a wide range of new material including an interactive forum, the novel concept of an occasional BUFORA competition and a far greater opportunity to become more involved with research projects and interact with various BUFORA personnel in a more 'real time' situation. Currently, the cost of subscription has yet to be finalised, so will be provided in due course upon request at [enquiries@bufora.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@bufora.org.uk) or via a subscription page on the new web site. The web site address will remain unchanged [www.bufora.org.uk](http://www.bufora.org.uk).

The future requires change, and BUFORA both embraces and looks forward to such changes. We hope our existing members will remain with us and equally embrace these changes by joining us at the new subscription-based web site. Any further queries can be answered by calling 020 8997 3496 or e-mailing the enquiries address above.

R. J. Rosamond (Chairman, BUFORA).



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15 March 2006

Dear BUFORA member,

Please find enclosed with this letter a copy of the minutes of the EGM held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2005. You will see from this document that the great majority of responding members voted in favour of the proposal from the Council of Management to restructure the Association. As a result, BUFORA has ceased to be a paying membership organisation that produces a bi-monthly Journal for members.

If your latest paid membership expires on any month later than November 2005, you will find enclosed a cheque by way of reimbursement of any outstanding months remaining on your membership after this date. Sums have been calculated on a pro-rata monthly basis.

BUFORA is continuing to fully operate via its website, and this will now be the vehicle through which we will publish news, views, investigations and research. The Postal Training Course will continue to be available to interested parties, and we will notify you of any upcoming events, lectures or conferences through the "Events" page on the site.

The Directorship is still in discussion about the proposed subscription area of the site, which is not yet operational, and will notify you via an announcement on the site once a decision has been made. In the meantime all areas of the BUFORA website are free to access.

BUFORA would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your loyalty and support over the years, without which we could not have continued to operate. Although the structure of the Association has now changed, we are still here, still investigating UFOs and still counting on your continued interest and input. Please feel free to contact us at any time by letter, email or telephone. Your views, sightings, reports and comments are always welcome.

Yours sincerely,

Judy Jaafar (secretary)